

Department I - C Plus Plus

Modern and Lucid C++  
for Professional Programmers

Week 5 – Errors, Classes and Operators

Prof. Peter Sommerlad / Thomas Corbat  
Rapperswil, 15.10.2019  
HS2019





# Failing Functions



## Goals:

- You know 5 different ways to react to errors in functions
- You know how to throw, catch and test exceptions

- **Precondition (Assumption) is violated**
  - Negative index
  - Divisor is zero
  - Usually caller provided wrong arguments
- **A function without preconditions has a so-called "wide contract" as opposed to "narrow contract"**
- **Postcondition could not be satisfied**
  - Resources for computation are not available
  - Can not open a file

Contract cannot be fulfilled

- **What should you do, if a function cannot fulfill its purpose?**

1. Ignore the error and provide potentially **undefined behavior**
2. Return a **standard result** to cover the error
3. Return an **error code** or error value
4. Provide an **error status** as a side-effect
5. Throw an **exception**

- **But first you need to know, if it can fail at all!**



```
std::vector v{1, 2, 3, 4, 5};  
v[5] = 7;
```



- **Relies on the caller to satisfy all preconditions**
- **Viable only if not dependent on other resources**
- **Most efficient implementation**
  - No unnecessary checks
- **Simple for the implementer but harder for the caller**
- **Should be done consciously and consistently!**

```
std::string inputName(std::istream & in) {  
    std::string name{};  
    in >> name;  
    return name.size() ? name : "anonymous";  
}
```

- Reliefs the caller from the need to care if it can continue with the default value
- Can hide underlying problems
  - Debugging can give you nightmares
- Often better if caller can specify its own default value

```
std::string inputNameWithDefault(std::istream & in,  
                                std::string const & def = "anonymous") {  
    std::string name{};  
    in >> name;  
    return name.size() ? name : def;  
}
```

- **Only feasible if result domain is smaller than return type**

- There exists a value that can be used
- Sometimes invented artificially: `std::string::npos`

```
bool contains(std::string const & s, int number) {  
    auto substring = std::to_string(number);  
    return s.find(substring) != std::string::npos;  
}
```

- POSIX defines -1 to mark failure of many system calls

- **Burden on the caller to check the result**

- Danger of ignoring significant errors if result is otherwise insignificant

- **std::optional<T> extends the range of type T with an extra "no-value" value**
- **Encodes the possibility of failure in the type system**
  - Can optionally contain NO value (default construction)

```
std::optional<std::string> inputName(std::istream & in) {  
    std::string name{};  
    if (in >> name) return name;  
    return {};  
}
```

- **Requires explicit access of the value at the call site**
  - has\_value() or boolean conversion checks whether the optional contains a value

```
int main() {  
    std::optional name = inputName(std::cin);  
    if (name.has_value()) {  
        std::cout << "Name: " << name.value() << '\n';  
    }  
}
```

```
int main() {  
    std::optional name = inputName(std::cin);  
    if (name) {  
        std::cout << "Name: " << *name << '\n';  
    }  
}
```



- **Requires reference parameter**

- Can be this object in member functions
- Annoying when error variable must be provided

```
int connect(std::string url, bool & error) {  
    //set error when an error occurred  
}
```

- **(Bad!) Alternative: Global variable**

- POSIX' errno is the glorious example of that

- **Example: std::istream's state (good(), fail()) is changed as a side-effect of input**

```
std::string name{};  
in >> name;  
if (in.fail()) { //Member variable  
    //Handle error case  
}
```

- **To throw an exception:**

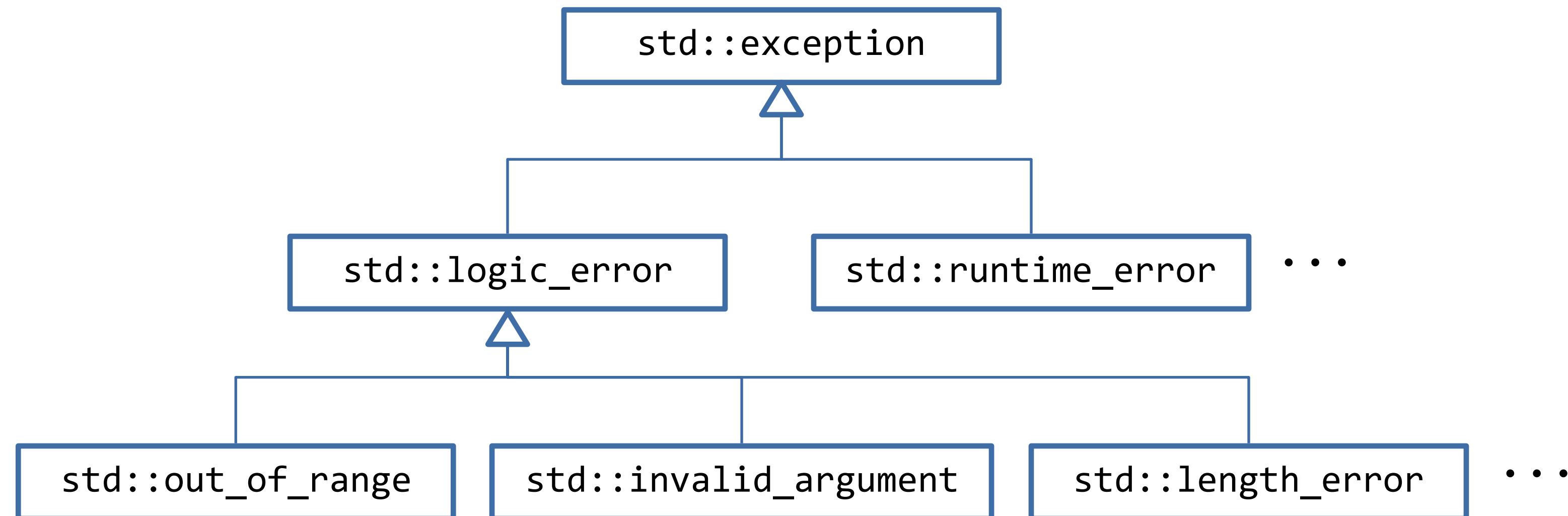
```
throw std::invalid_argument{"Description"};  
throw 15;
```

- Any (copyable) type can be thrown
- **No means to specify what could be thrown**
  - No checks if you catch an exception that might be thrown at call-site
- **No meta-information is available as part of the exception**
  - No stack trace, no source position of throw
- **Exception thrown while exception is propagated results in program abort (not while caught)**
- **Use Exceptions for constructors that cannot guarantee class invariant and operator functions!**

- **Try-catch block as in Java**
  - Can be the whole function body
- **Principle: Throw by value, catch by const reference**
  - Avoids unnecessary copying
  - Allows dynamic polymorphism for class types
- **Sequence of catches is significant**
  - First match wins
- **Catch all with ellipsis (...):**
  - Must be last catch
- **Caught exceptions can be rethrown with throw; in the catch block.**

```
try {  
    throwingCall();  
} catch (type const & e) {  
    //Handle type exception  
} catch (type2 const & e) {  
    //Handle type2 exception  
} catch (...) {  
    //Handle other exception types  
}
```

- The Standard Library has some pre-defined exception types that you can also use in <stdexcept>



- All subclasses of `logic_error` and `runtime_error` have a constructor parameter for the "reason" of type `std::string`
- `std::exception` is the base class
  - It provides the `what()` member function to obtain the "reason"



- **Functions that have a precondition on their caller**
  - When not all possible argument values are useful for the function

```
double square_root(double x) {  
    if (x < 0) {  
        throw std::invalid_argument{"square_root imaginary"};  
    }  
    return std::sqrt(x);  
}
```

- **Do NOT use exceptions as a means to return values**
  - Catch then becomes a "come from" and throw a "go to"

- CUTE provides `ASSERT_THROWS(code, exception)`

```
void testSquareRootNegativeThrows() {  
    ASSERT_THROWS(square_root(-1.0), std::invalid_argument);  
}
```

```
void testEmptyVectorAtThrows() {  
    std::vector<int> empty_vector{};  
    ASSERT_THROWS(empty_vector.at(0), std::out_of_range);  
}
```

- You can also use `try-FAILM()-catch` (this is how `ASSERT_THROWS` is implemented)

```
void testForExceptionTryCatch() {  
    std::vector<int> empty_vector{};  
    try {  
        empty_vector.at(1);  
        FAILM("expected Exception");  
    } catch (std::out_of_range const &) {  
        // expected  
    }  
}
```

```
void check(int i) {  
    if (i % 2) {  
        throw "is even";  
    }  
    throw 0;  
}  
  
void printIsEven(int i) try {  
    check(i);  
} catch(int) {  
    std::cout << "that's odd";  
} catch(...) {  
    std::cout << "very even";  
}
```

```
void check(int i) {  
    if (i % 2) {  
        throw "is even";  
    }  
    throw 0;  
}  
  
void printIsEven(int i) try {  
    check(i);  
} catch(int) {  
    std::cout << "that's odd";  
} catch(...) {  
    std::cout << "very even";  
}
```



<https://cdn.someecards.com/someecards/usercards/that-is-just-so-wrong-on-so-many-levels-19e73.png>



```
void check(int i) {  
    if (i % 2) {  
        throw "is even";  
    }  
    throw 0;  
}  
  
void printIsEven(int i) try {  
    check(i);  
} catch(int) {  
    std::cout << "that's odd";  
} catch(...) {  
    std::cout << "very even";  
}
```

```
void check(int i) {  
    if (i % 2) {  
        throw "is even";  
    }  
    throw 0;  
}  
  
void printIsEven(int i) try {  
    check(i);  
} catch(int) {  
    std::cout << "that's odd";  
} catch(...) {  
    std::cout << "very even";  
}
```

### Incorrect

It is syntactically correct C++, BUT:

- You must never use an exception on correct execution paths just to change control flow on the call-site. Use exceptions only for violations of pre- and post-conditions!
- Don't throw primitives, even if you can. Use an exception from `<stdexcept>` or derive your own exception from `std::exception`.
- Catch by const reference, not by value!
- Condition is inverted, so the exception is lying

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARYP83yNAWk>

**Conceptual goals for  
error free and fault  
tolerant software**

**What to use**

**Report-to Handler**

**Handler species**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARYP83yNAWk>



Conceptual goals for error free and fault tolerant software	What to use	Report-to Handler	Handler species
Corruption of the abstract machine (e.g., no more stack, UB)	<code>std::terminate()</code>	User	Human

Conceptual goals for error free and fault tolerant software	What to use	Report-to Handler	Handler species
Corruption of the abstract machine (e.g., no more stack, UB)	<code>std::terminate()</code>	User	Human
Programming bug - detectable (e.g., precondition violation)	asserts, log checks, contracts, ...	Programmer	Human write better unit tests !

<b>Conceptual goals for error free and fault tolerant software</b>	<b>What to use</b>	<b>Report-to Handler</b>	<b>Handler species</b>
<b>Corruption of the abstract machine (e.g., no more stack, UB)</b>	<code>std::terminate()</code>	User	Human
<b>Programming bug - detectable (e.g., precondition violation)</b>	asserts, log checks, contracts, ...	Programmer	Human write better unit tests !
<b>Recoverable/expected error (e.g., host not found)</b>	throw exception, error code, etc.	Calling Code	Code for increasing fault tolerance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARYP83yNAWk>

- **A good function**
  - Does one thing well and is named after that ("High Cohesion")
  - Has only few parameters ( $\leq 3$ , max 5)
  - Consists of only a few lines without deeply nested control structure
  - Provides guarantees about its result (aka its contract)
  - Is easy to use with all possible argument values its parameter types allow or provides consistent error reporting if argument values prohibit delivering its result (exception)
- **Pass parameters and return results by value (unless there is a good reason not to)**



- Functions can be declared to explicitly not throw an exception with the noexcept keyword
- The compiler does not need to check it

```
int add(int lhs, int rhs) noexcept
{
    return lhs + rhs;
}
```

- If an exception is thrown (directly or indirectly) from a noexcept function the program will terminate

```
void fail() {
    throw 1;
}

void lie() noexcept {
    fail();
}
```

# Classes



## Goals:

- You know how to define a class in C++
- You know the elements a class consists of
- You can implement your own data types

- **Does one thing well and is named after that**
  - High Cohesion
- **Consists of member functions with only a few lines**
  - Avoid deeply nested control structures
- **Has a class invariant and guarantees it if needed**
  - Provides a guarantee about its state (values of the member variables)
  - Constructors establish that invariant
- **Is easy to use without complicated protocol sequence requirements**

```
GoodClassName.h  
  
class <GoodClassName> {  
    <constructors>  
    <member functions>  
    <member variables>  
};
```

- A class defines a new type
- A class is usually defined in a header file
- At the end of a class definition a semicolon is required

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day)
        : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} { /*...*/ }

    static bool isLeapYear(int year) { /*...*/ }

private:
    bool isValidDate() const { /*...*/ }
    int year, month, day;
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

- **Include guard ensures that the content of a header file is only included once**
  - Eliminates cyclic dependencies of `#include` directives
- **Prevents violation of the One Definition Rule**
- **Directives**
  - `#ifndef <name>`
  - `#define <name>`
  - `#endif`
  - `#pragma once` // non standard!

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day)
        : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} { /*...*/ }

    static bool isLeapYear(int year) { /*...*/ }

private:
    bool isValidDate() const { /*...*/ }
    int year, month, day;
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```



- **Keywords for defining a class**
  - class
  - struct
- **Default visibility for members of the class are**
  - private for class
  - public for struct

```
struct <name> {  
    ...  
};
```

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h  
#define DATE_H_  
  
class Date {  
public:  
    Date(int year, int month, int day)  
        : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} { /*...*/}  
  
    static bool isLeapYear(int year) { /*...*/}  
  
private:  
    bool isValidDate() const { /*...*/}  
    int year, month, day;  
};  
  
#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

- **Access specifiers (followed by a colon :)**
  - **private:**  
visible only inside the class (and friends); for hidden data members
  - **protected:**  
also visible in subclasses
  - **public:**  
visible from everywhere; for the interface of the class
- **All subsequent members have this visibility**
- **Each visibility can reoccur multiple times**

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day)
        : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} { /*...*/ }

    static bool isLeapYear(int year) { /*...*/ }

private:
    bool isValidDate() const { /*...*/ }
    int year, month, day;
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

- Have a type and a name

`<type> <name>;`

- The content/state of an object that represents the value of the type
- Make members **const** if possible
- Don't add members to communicate between member function calls
  - Hard to test
  - Such usage protocols are a burden for the user of the class
  - Better: Use parameters

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day)
        : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} { /*...*/ }

    static bool isLeapYear(int year) { /*...*/ }

private:
    bool isValidDate() const { /*...*/ }
    int year, month, day;
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

- **Function with name of the class**

- Special member function

- **No return type**

```
<class name>(){}

```

- **Initializer list for member initialization**

```
<class name>(<parameters>)
: <initializer-list>
{}

```

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day)
        : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} { /*...*/ }

    static bool isLeapYear(int year) { /*...*/ }

private:
    bool isValidDate() const { /*...*/ }
    int year, month, day;
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */

```

- **Function with name of the class**

- Special member function

- **No return type**

```
<class name>(){}

```

- **Initializer list for member initialization**

```
<class name>(<parameters>)
: <initializer-list>
{}

```

```
#ifndef DATE_H_
#define DATE_H_
Date.h

class Date {
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day)
    : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} { /*...*/ }

    static bool isLeapYear(int year) { /*...*/ }

private:
    bool isValidDate() const { /*...*/ }
    int year, month, day;
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */

```

The diagram illustrates the relationship between the constructor parameters and the member variables. Three blue arrows point from the `year`, `month`, and `day` parameters in the constructor's initializer list to the corresponding member variables `year`, `month`, and `day` declared in the `private` section of the `Date` class.

## • Default Constructor

```
Date d{};
```

- No parameters
- Implicitly available if there are no other explicit constructors
- Has to initialize member variables with default values

```
Date d2{d};
```

## • Copy Constructor

- Has one <own-type> const & parameter
- Implicitly available (unless there is an explicit move constructor or assignment operator)
- Copies all member variables
- Usually you don't need to define or implement it

```
class Date {
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day);
    //Default-Constructor
    Date();
    //Copy-Constructor
    Date(Date const &);
    //Move-Constructor
    Date(Date &&);
    //Typeconversion-Constructor
    explicit Date(std::string const &);
    //Destructor
    ~Date();
};
```





- **Move Constructor**

```
Date d2{std::move(d)};
```

- Has one <own-type> && parameter
  - Implicitly available (unless there is an explicit copy constructor or assignment operator)
  - Moves all members
  - Usually you don't need to implement it explicitly
- **Will be covered in C++ Advanced**

```
class Date {  
public:  
    Date(int year, int month, int day);  
    //Default-Constructor  
    Date();  
    //Copy-Constructor  
    Date(Date const &);  
    //Move-Constructor  
    Date(Date &&);  
    //Typeconversion-Constructor  
    explicit Date(std::string const &);  
    //Destructor  
    ~Date();  
};
```

## ● Typeconversion Constructor

```
Date tomorrow{"16/10/2019"s};
```

- Has one <other-type> const & parameter
- Converts the input type if possible
- Declare **explicit** to avoid unexpected conversions!

```
class Date {  
public:  
    Date(int year, int month, int day);  
    //Default-Constructor  
    Date();  
    //Copy-Constructor  
    Date(Date const &);  
    //Move-Constructor  
    Date(Date &&);  
    //Typeconversion-Constructor  
    explicit Date(std::string const &);  
    //Destructor  
    ~Date();  
};
```

- **Initializer List Constructor**

```
Container box{item1, item2, item3};
```

- Has one `std::initializer_list` parameter
- Does not need to be **explicit**, implicit conversion is usually desired

```
struct Container {  
    Ccontainer() = default;  
    Container(std::initializer_list<Element> elements);  
private:  
    std::vector<Element> elements{};  
};
```

- **Initializer List constructors are preferred if a variable is initialized with {}**

```
std::vector v(5, 10)
```

```
std::vector v{5, 10}
```

- **Named like the default constructor but with a leading ~**

```
~Date();
```

- **Has to release all resources**
- **Implicitly available**
  - If you program properly you will hardly ever need to implement it yourself!
- **Must not throw an exception!**
- **Called automatically at the end of the block for local instances ( } destroys all locals)**

```
class Date {  
public:  
    Date(int year, int month, int day);  
    //Default-Constructor  
    Date();  
    //Copy-Constructor  
    Date(Date const &);  
    //Move-Constructor  
    Date(Date &&);  
    //Typeconversion-Constructor  
    explicit Date(std::string const &);  
    //Destructor  
    ~Date();  
};
```

- **Base classes are specified after the name**

```
class <name> : <base1>, ..., <baseN>
```

- **Multiple inheritance is possible**
- **Inheritance can specify a visibility**
  - public, protected, private
  - Limits the **maximum** visibility of the inherited members
  - If no visibility is specified the default of the inheriting class is used (class->private and struct->public)
- **Details about Diamonds and Virtual inheritance later**

```
class Base {  
private:  
    int onlyInBase;  
protected:  
    int baseAndInSubclasses;  
public:  
    int everyoneCanFiddleWithMe  
};
```

```
class Sub : public Base {  
    //Can see baseAndInSubclasses and  
    //everyoneCanFiddleWithMe  
};
```

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
    int year, month, day;
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day);

    static bool isLeapYear(int year);

private:
    bool isValidDate() const;
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

```
#include "Date.h"                                     Date.cpp

Date::Date(int year, int month, int day)
    : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} {
    /*...*/
}

bool Date::isLeapYear(int year) {
    /*...*/
}

bool Date::isValidDate() const {
    /*...*/
}
```



```
#include "Date.h"                                     Any.cpp

void foo() {
    Date today{2019, 10, 15};

    auto wednesday{today.tomorrow()};

    Date::isLeapYear(2016);

    //what now?
    Date invalidDate {2019, 13, 1};
}
```

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                         Date.h
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
    int year, month, day;
public:
    Date(int year, int month, int day);

    Date tomorrow() const;

    static bool isLeapYear(int year);

private:
    bool isValidDate() const;
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

```
struct Recipe {  
    Recipe(std::initializer_list<Step> steps);  
    Meal cook() const;  
private:  
    std::vector<Step> steps{};  
};
```

```
struct Vehicle {  
    Location location{};  
};  
class Car : Vehicle {  
public:  
    Route drive(Destination destination);  
};  
void printLocation(Car & car) {  
    std::cout << car.location;  
}
```

```
struct Recipe {  
    Recipe(std::initializer_list<Step> steps);  
    Meal cook() const;  
private:  
    std::vector<Step> steps{};  
};
```

Correct

The class declaration has a semicolon at the end and a Recipe is constructible with a list of (cooking) steps. The visibilities are sensible.

```
struct Vehicle {  
    Location location{};  
};  
class Car : Vehicle {  
public:  
    Route drive(Destination destination);  
};  
void printLocation(Car & car) {  
    std::cout << car.location;  
}
```

```
struct Recipe {  
    Recipe(std::initializer_list<Step> steps);  
    Meal cook() const;  
private:  
    std::vector<Step> steps{};  
};
```

Correct

The class declaration has a semicolon at the end and a Recipe is constructible with a list of (cooking) steps. The visibilities are sensible.

```
struct Vehicle {  
    Location location{};  
};  
class Car : Vehicle {  
public:  
    Route drive(Destination destination);  
};  
void printLocation(Car & car) {  
    std::cout << car.location;  
}
```

Inncorrect

While Vehicle and Car are syntactically correct, Car inherits privately from Vehicle (due to the class keyword). Therefore, the members of Vehicle cannot be accessed from outside the Car class.

## ● Establish Invariant

- Properties for a value of the type that are always true
- E.g. a Date instance always represents a valid date
- All (public) member functions assume and keep it intact

## ● Initialize all members

- Constructors only create a valid instance (Otherwise throw an exception!)
- Use list of base classes and member variables
- Use default values if possible/necessary

Date.cpp

```
#include "Date.h"

Date::Date(int year, int month, int day)
    : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} {
    if (!isValidDate()) {
        throw std::out_of_range{"invalid date"};
    }
}

Date::Date() : Date{1980, 1, 1} {
}

Date::Date(Date const & other)
    : Date{other.year, other.month, other.day} {
}
```

- As we have specified a default value, this should be the value created by the default constructor

- Constructor without parameters

- Remark regarding initialization:

```
Date nice_d{};  
Date ugly_d;
```

- Both create a Date and call the default constructor in this case
- The second (without {}) does not work with all types. It might contain uninitialized variables
- Good practice: Initialize all variables with {}!

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h  
#define DATE_H_  
  
class Date {  
    //...  
    Date();  
};  
  
#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

```
#include "Date.h"                                     Date.cpp  
  
Date::Date()  
    : year{9999}, month{12}, day{31} {  
}
```



- **Member variables can have a default value assigned**

- NSDMI – Non-Static Data Member Initializers

```
class <classname> {
    <type> <membername>{<default-value>};
};
```

- **Such values are used if the member is not present in the initializer list of the constructor**

- Initializer list still overrides those values

- **Useful if multiple constructors initialize data similarly**

- Avoids duplication

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
    int year{9999}, month{12}, day{31};
    //...
    Date();
    Date(int year, int month, int day);
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

```
#include "Date.h"                                     Date.cpp

Date::Date() {
}

Date::Date(int year, int month, int day)
    : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} {
    /*...*/
}
```

- **Some special member functions are implicitly available in certain cases**
  - E.g. Default constructor is implicitly available if no other explicit constructor is declared
- **(Re-)implementing the default behavior of the default constructor can be avoided:**

```
<ctor-name>() = default;
```

- Adds the corresponding constructor to the type with the same behavior as if it was implicitly available
- Possible for:
  - Default constructor and destructor
  - Copy/move constructor
  - Copy/move assignment operator

```

Date.h
#ifndef DATE_H_
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
    int year{9999}, month{12}, day{31};
    //...
    Date() = default;
    Date(int year, int month, int day);
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */

```

```

Date.cpp
#include "Date.h"

Date::Date() {
}

Date::Date(int year, int month, int day)
    : year{year}, month{month}, day{day} {
    /*...*/
}

```

- **Some special member functions are implicitly available in certain cases**
  - E.g. Default constructor is implicitly available if no other explicit constructor is declared
- **Those implicit constructor are not always wanted**
  - Make them explicitly private
  - Or delete them

`<ctor-name>() = delete;`
  - Possible for:
    - Default constructor and destructor
    - Copy/move constructor
    - Copy/move assignment operator

```
Banknote.h
#ifndef BANKNOTE_H_
#define BANKNOTE_H_

class Banknote {
    int value;
    //...
    Banknote(Banknote & const) = delete;
};

#endif /* BANKNOTE_H_ */
```

```
Forger.cpp
#include "Banknote.h"

Banknote forge(Banknote const & note) {
    Banknote copy{note}; //!⚡
    return copy;
}
```

- Similar to Java constructors can call other constructors

C++

```
Ctor(Parameters)  
    : Ctor(Arguments) {  
}
```

Java

```
Ctor(Parameters) {  
    this(Arguments);  
}
```

- Constructor call has to be in the member initializer list
- Similar are calls to constructors of base classes

C++

```
Ctor(Parameters)  
    : Base(Arguments) {  
}
```

Java

```
Ctor(Parameters) {  
    super(Arguments);  
}
```

```
#ifndef DATE_H_                                     Date.h  
#define DATE_H_  
  
class Date {  
    //...  
    Date(int year, Month month, int day);  
    Date(int year, int month, int day);  
};  
  
#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

```
#include "Date.h"                                   Date.cpp  
  
Date::Date(int year, int month, int day)  
    : Date{year, Month(month), day} {}
```

- **Don't violate invariant**
  - Leave object in valid state
- **Implicit `this` object**
  - Is a pointer
  - Member access with arrow: `->`
- **Declare `const` if possible!**
- **Must not modify members if `const`**
  - Refers to `this` object
  - Can only call `const` members
- **Otherwise access to all other members**

```
#include "Date.h"                                     Date.cpp

bool Date::isValidDate() const {
    if (day <= 0) {
        return false;
    }
    switch (month) {
        case 1: case 3: case 5: case 7:
        case 8: case 10: case 12:
            return day <= 31;
        case 4: case 6: case 9: case 11:
            return this->day <= 30;
        case 2:
            return day <= (isLeapYear(year) ? 29:28);
        default:
            return false;
    }
}
```

```
struct Counter {  
    void increase(unsigned step) {  
        auto before = current();  
        value = before + step;  
    }  
    unsigned current() const;  
private:  
    unsigned value;  
};
```

```
struct Document {  
    void print(std::ostream & out) const {  
        updatePrintDate();  
        out << content;  
    }  
private:  
    void updatePrintDate();  
};
```

```
struct Counter {  
    void increase(unsigned step) {  
        auto before = current();  
        value = before + step;  
    }  
    unsigned current() const;  
private:  
    unsigned value;  
};
```

Correct

It is allowed to call const member functions from non-const member functions.

```
struct Document {  
    void print(std::ostream & out) const {  
        updatePrintDate();  
        out << content;  
    }  
private:  
    void updatePrintDate();  
};
```



```
struct Counter {  
    void increase(unsigned step) {  
        auto before = current();  
        value = before + step;  
    }  
    unsigned current() const;  
private:  
    unsigned value;  
};
```

Correct

It is allowed to call const member functions from non-const member functions.

```
struct Document {  
    void print(std::ostream & out) const {  
        updatePrintDate();  
        out << content;  
    }  
private:  
    void updatePrintDate();  
};
```

Inncorrect

It is not allowed to call a non-const member function from a const member function

- No **this** object
- Cannot be **const**
- No **static** keyword in implementation
- Call with `<classname>::<member>()`

```
Date::isLeapYear(2016);
```

```
#include "Date.h"                                     Date.cpp

bool Date::isLeapYear(int year) {
    if (year % 400 == 0) {
        return true;
    } else if (year % 100 == 0) {
        return false;
    } else if (year % 4 == 0) {
        return true;
    }
    return false;
}

//or the unreadable version
bool Date::isLeapYear(int year) {
    return !(year % 4) &&
           ((year % 100) || !(year % 400));
}
```

- No **static** keyword in implementation (should not be used, because of threading)
- **static const/inline** member can be initialized directly (no ODR violation)
- Access outside class with name qualifier: `<classname>::<member>`

```
class Date {                                     Date.h
    static const Date myBirthday;
    static Date favoriteStudentsBirthday;
    static const Date today{2018, 10, 16};

    //...
};
```

```
#include "Date.h"                               Any.cpp
#include <iostream>

void foo() {
    std::cout << Date::myBirthday;
    Date::favoriteStudentsBirthday = ...;
}
```

```
#include "Date.h"                               Date.cpp

Date const Date::myBirthday{1964, 12, 24};
Date Date::favoriteStudentsBirthday{1995, 5, 10};
```

```
struct Recipe {  
    Recipe(std::vector<Step> steps) = default;  
    Meal cook() const;  
private:  
    std::vector<Step> steps{};  
};
```

```
struct Chair {  
    explicit Chair(unsigned legs = 4u);  
private:  
    unsigned legs;  
};  
Chair::Chair(unsigned legs)  
    : legs{legs} {  
    if (legs < 1u) {  
        throw std::invalid_argument{"..."};  
    }  
}
```

```
struct Recipe {  
    Recipe(std::vector<Step> steps) = default;  
    Meal cook() const;  
private:  
    std::vector<Step> steps{};  
};
```

**Incorrect**

Of all constructors, only default, copy and move constructors can be declared = **default**.

```
struct Chair {  
    explicit Chair(unsigned legs = 4u);  
private:  
    unsigned legs;  
};  
Chair::Chair(unsigned legs)  
    : legs{legs} {  
    if (legs < 1u) {  
        throw std::invalid_argument{"..."};  
    }  
}
```

```
struct Recipe {
    Recipe(std::vector<Step> steps) = default;
    Meal cook() const;
private:
    std::vector<Step> steps{};
};
```

**Incorrect**

Of all constructors, only default, copy and move constructors can be declared = **default**.

```
struct Chair {
    explicit Chair(unsigned legs = 4u);
private:
    unsigned legs;
};
Chair::Chair(unsigned legs)
    : legs{legs} {
    if (legs < 1u) {
        throw std::invalid_argument{"..."};
    }
}
```

**Correct**

Constructors can have default arguments too. In the declaration, a constructor that can be called with a single argument should be explicit. It uses the member initializer list and throws an exception if the invariant cannot be established.

# Operator Overloading



## Goals:

- You know how to overload operators for classes
- You know the correct way to read and print objects
- You can deal with streams correctly in your classes



- Custom operators can be overloaded for user-defined types

- Declared like a function, with a special name

```
<returntype> operator op(<parameters>);
```

- Unary operators -> one parameter
  - Binary operators -> two parameters

- Implement operators reasonably!

- Semantic should be natural

- "When in doubt, do as the **ints** do"

- Scott Meyers – Effective C++

- Overloadable Operators (*op*):

+	-	*	/	%	^
&		~	!	,	=
<	>	<=	>=	++	--
<<	>>	==	!=	&&	
+=	-=	/=	%=	^=	&=
=	*=	<<=	>>=	[]	()
->	->*	new	new []	delete	delete []

- Non-Overloadable Operators:

```
::      .*      .      ? :
```

- **Example: Making Date comparable**
- Compare **year**, **month** and **day**
- **Free operator<(l,r)**
  - Two parameters of type **Date**
  - Each **const** &
  - Return type **bool**
- **inline** when defined in header
- **Problem with free operator**
  - No access to private members

Any.cpp


```
#include "Date.h"
#include <iostream>

void foo() {
    std::cout << Date::myBirthday;
    Date d{};
    std::cin >> d;
    std::cout << "is d older? " << (d < Date::myBirthday);
}
```

Date.h

```
class Date {
    int year, month, day; //private 😞
};

inline bool operator<(Date const & lhs, Date const & rhs) {
    return lhs.year < rhs.year ||
        (lhs.year == rhs.year && (lhs.month < rhs.month ||
            (lhs.month == rhs.month && lhs.day == rhs.day)));
}
```



- **Member operator<**

- One parameters of type **Date**
- Which is **const** &
- Return type **bool**
- Right-hand side of operation

- **Implicit **this** object**

- **const** due to qualifier
- Left-hand side of operation

- **Access to private members**

- **Implicit **inline** as member**

```
#include "Date.h"
#include <iostream>

void foo() {
    std::cout << Date::myBirthday;
    Date d{};
    std::cin >> d;
    std::cout << "is d older? " << (d < Date::myBirthday);
}
```

Any.cpp

```
class Date {
    int year, month, day; //private 😊

    bool operator<(Date const & rhs) const {
        return year < rhs.year ||
            (year == rhs.year && (month < rhs.month ||
                (month == rhs.month && day == rhs.day)));
    }
};
```

Date.h

- `std::tie` creates a tuple and binds the arguments with lvalue references
- `std::tuple` provides comparison operators:
  - `operator==`  
`operator!=`  
`operator<`  
`operator<=`  
`operator>`  
`operator>=`
- Comparison of `std::tuple` is component-wise from left to right

```
#include "Date.h"                                     Date.cpp
#include <tuple>

bool Date::operator<(Date const & rhs) const {
    return std::tie(year, month, day) <
           std::tie(rhs.year, rhs.month, rhs.day);
}
```

```
class Date {                                           Date.h
    int year, month, day; //private 😊

    bool operator<(Date const & rhs) const;
};
```

C++20 introduces `<=>` spaceship operator for comparisons reducing the boilerplate to write

- **Ensure**
  - Transitivity
  - Associativity
  - Commutativity
- **Avoid duplication!**
- **Beware of call loops!**
- **Caution: can slow compile times**
- **Better: friend inline within class**

Date.h

```
class Date {  
    int year, month, day; //private 😊  
public:  
    bool operator<(Date const & rhs) const;  
};  
  
inline bool operator>(Date const & lhs, Date const & rhs) {  
    return rhs < lhs;  
}  
inline bool operator>=(Date const & lhs, Date const & rhs) {  
    return !(lhs < rhs);  
}  
inline bool operator<=(Date const & lhs, Date const & rhs) {  
    return !(rhs < lhs);  
}  
inline bool operator==(Date const & lhs, Date const & rhs) {  
    return !(lhs < rhs) && !(rhs < lhs);  
}  
inline bool operator!=(Date const & lhs, Date const & rhs) {  
    return !(lhs == rhs);  
}
```

- Boost provides base classes to implement (inherit) derived operators

- Inherit from `boost::less_than_comparable`

- `private` inheritance is enough

- `boost::less_than_comparable`

- requires `<`
  - provides `>`, `<=` and `>=`

- See boost documentation

- [www.boost.org](http://www.boost.org)

```
#include "boost/operators.hpp"
#include <tuple>

class Date : private boost::less_than_comparable<Date> {
    int year, month, day;
public:
    bool operator<(Date const & rhs) const {
        return std::tie(year, month, day) <
               std::tie(rhs.year, rhs.month, rhs.day);
    }
};
```

Date.h



- **Output operator as free operator:**

- `operator<<`
- Parameters: `std::ostream &` and `Date const &`
- Returns `std::ostream &` for chaining output

- **Problem: Can only access private members as "friend"**

```
#include "Date.h"           Any.cpp
#include <iostream>

void foo() {
    std::cout << Date::myBirthday;
}
```

```
#include <ostream>           Date.h

class Date {
    int year, month, day; //private 😞

    friend inline std::ostream & operator<<(std::ostream & os, Date const & date) {
        os << date.year << "/" << date.month << "/" << date.day;
        return os;
    }
};
```



- **Indirection print member function**

- Has access to private data members
- Can be called from non-friend operator<<
- operator<< can be defined in header file

```
#include "Date.h"
#include <iostream>

void foo() {
    std::cout << Date::myBirthday;
}
```

Any.cpp

```
#include <ostream>

class Date {
    int year, month, day;
public:
    std::ostream & print(std::ostream & os) const {
        os << year << "/" << month << "/" << day;
        return os;
    }
};

inline std::ostream & operator<<(std::ostream & os, Date const & date) {
    return date.print(os);
}
```

Date.h

- **Input operator has the same problems as the output operator**

- `operator>>`
- Parameters: `std::istream &` and `Date &`
- Returns `std::istream &` for chaining input

```
#include "Date.h"      Any.cpp
#include <iostream>

void foo() {
    Date d{};
    std::cin >> d;
}
```

```
#include <iostream>                                     Date.h

class Date {
    int year, month, day;
public:
    std::istream & read(std::istream & is) {
        //Logic for reading values and verifying correctness
        return is;
    }
};

inline std::istream & operator>>(std::istream & is, Date & date) {
    return date.read(is);
}
```

- Expect `std::istream` to be in `good()` state as precondition and to provide a correct date
- If extracting a date fails set the `std::istream` to fail state
- Do not overwrite the `this` object if the input cannot be used to read a valid date object
  - Keep the invariant "Date represents a valid date"

```
//Includes Date.h  
  
class Date {  
    int year, month, day;  
public:  
    std::istream & read(std::istream & is) {  
        int year{-1}, month{-1}, day{-1};  
        char sep1, sep2;  
        //read values  
        is >> year >> sep1 >> month >> sep2 >> day;  
        try {  
            Date input{year, month, day};  
            //overwrite content of this object (copy-ctor)  
            (*this) = input;  
            //clear stream if read was ok  
            is.clear();  
        } catch (std::out_of_range const & e) {  
            //set failbit  
            is.setstate(std::ios::failbit);  
        }  
        return is;  
    }  
};
```

- Declaration of a constructor that takes an std::istream & as parameter

```
explicit Date(std::istream & in);
```

- Declare constructors with one parameter explicit to avoid automatic conversion
- Throw an exception if the input does not represent a valid date
  - For not violating the invariant
  - Alternative: Create a date with a default value

```
#ifndef DATE_H_
#define DATE_H_

class Date {
    //...
    explicit Date(std::istream & in);
};

#endif /* DATE_H_ */
```

Date.h

```
#include "Date.h"

Date::Date(std::istream & in)
    : year{}, month{}, day{} {
    read(in);
    if (in.fail())
        throw std::out_of_range{"invalid date"};
}
```

Date.cpp

- **Declaration of a factory function for Date**

```
Date make_date(std::istream & in);
```

- **Factory functions**

- make\_xxx() or create\_xxx()

- **Placed in**

- Class as static member function
- Or in same namespace as the class

- **Delivers a default value if reading fails**

- E.g. Date{9999, 12, 31} or an empty optional<Date>{}
- Similar to std::string::npos for "not found"

```
Date make_date(std::istream & in)
try {
    return Date{in};
} catch (std::out_of_range const &) {
    return Date{9999, 12, 31};
}
```

```
std::optional<Date>
make_date(std::istream & in)
try {
    return Date{in};
} catch (std::out_of_range const &) {
    return {};
}
```

```
struct SwissGrid {
    SwissGrid() = default;
    SwissGrid(double y, double x);
    void read(std::istream & in) {
        double y{}; in >> y;
        double x{}; in >> x;
        try {
            SwissGrid inputCoordinate{y, x};
            *this = inputCoordinate;
        } catch(std::invalid_argument & e) {
            in.setstate(std::ios_base::failbit);
        }
    }
private:
    double y{600000.0};
    double x{200000.0};
};

std::istream & operator>>(
    std::istream & in,
    SwissGrid & coordinate) {
    coordinate.read(in);
    return in;
}
```

```
struct SwissGrid {
    SwissGrid() = default;
    SwissGrid(double y, double x);
    void read(std::istream & in) {
        double y{}; in >> y;
        double x{}; in >> x;
        try {
            SwissGrid inputCoordinate{y, x};
            *this = inputCoordinate;
        } catch(std::invalid_argument & e) {
            in.setstate(std::ios_base::failbit);
        }
    }
private:
    double y{600000.0};
    double x{200000.0};
};

std::istream & operator>>(
    std::istream & in,
    SwissGrid & coordinate) {
    coordinate.read(in);
    return in;
}
```

Correct

The input (and output) operator must be implemented as free function. Since they usually won't have access to the private members of a type, a member function for reading/writing is required.



- **Separate the class declaration from the member function implementations properly into header and source files**
- **Initialize member variables with default values or in the constructor's initializer list**
- **Throw an exception from a constructor if it cannot establish the class invariant**
- **You need to implement input and output operators as free functions**
- **Provide sensible operations when implementing operators for your types**